

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00236 251825Z

64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 ACDA-19 EA-11 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /165 W

----- 064448

R 251430Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2546

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0236

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI AO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE OVERFLIGHTS OF CONGO

REF: LUANDA 197

1. RELIABLE SOURCE IN PORTUGUESE HIGH COMMAND HAS TOLD CONGEN OFFICER THAT PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE (PAF) PLANES ARE MAKING RECONNAISSANCE OVERFLIGHTS OF THE TERRITORY OF CONGO (B) IN THE REGION AROUND THE NORTHEASTERN TIP OF CABINDS. ONE OF THE PLANES

WAS SHOT AT BY MPLA MEDIUM CALIBER ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS BUT WAS NOT HIT. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF OVERFLIGHTS IS TO LOCATE LAUNCHING SITES FOR 122MM ROCKETS THAT MPLA NOW HAS IN QUANTITY.

2. SOURCE STATED MPLA STRATEGY IN CABINDA APPARENTLY IS TO ISOLATE SMALL BASE AT MICONGE.

3. COMMENT: MICONGE IS VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THIS TYPE TACTIC. IT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUANDA 00236 251825Z

HAS NO AIRSTRIP AND CAN ONLY BE REACHED BY STEEP, WINDING ROAD

THROUGH HEAVY JUNGLE. THIS ROAD WAS SITE OF TWO SUCCESSFUL MPLA  
AMBUSHES IN LATE MARCH (REFTEL). MICONGE DOES HAVE HELIPORT BUT  
PORTUGUESE VERY SHORT ON AIR ASSETS. WITH DETERMINED ANTI-  
AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION IN SURROUNDING HILLS, AND WITHOUT SUPPRESSIVE  
ARTILLERY FIRE OR AIR SUPPORT (NEITHER OF WHICH AVAILABLE),  
LANDING A HELICOPTER IN MICONGE WILL BE QUITE DANGEROUS.  
BRIGGS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR DEFENSE, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT, ROCKETS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974LUANDA00236  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740098-0443  
**From:** LUANDA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740415/aaaaampz.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** LUANDA 197  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PORTUGUESE OVERFLIGHTS OF CONGO  
**TAGS:** MILI, MOPS, OCLR, AO, MPLA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005